THE COPPY

Of a certain

Large A&[Obligatory]

OF

TONKER LOVIS

de Bils, Lord of *Koppens-damme*, *Bonen*, *&c.*

Touching the Skill of a better way of ANATOMY of *MANS BODY*.

Printed [in low Dutch] at *Rotterdam*, in the Printing-house of *John Naranus* a Book-seller, at the sign of the Book-*binder* in the street called *Het Steiger*.

LONDON, 1659.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

To my much esteemed Friend *Samuel Hartlib* the Elder, Esq;

SIR,

Your desires were wont to tend so much to the Publick good, that your Virtuosi would think I wanted Philanthropy as well as Civility, if I should refuse to comply with such as your Letter brings me. I send you therefore the Propositions of Monsieur de Bils *Englished out*

of low Dutch, at my request, by such a Person as you will readily think can translate very well, though he can better write things worthy to be translated; when I shall have told you that his name is Mr. Pell. *The design avow'd to be aim'd at in the Propositions, and much more the matter of Fact, without which they might appeare extravagant, made the Print (I confesse) very welcome to me. For though in some Papers I formerly told you of, I had mentioned divers things I had intended to try, and some that I had already observ'd, in order to the preservation of Animal*

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ſubſtances, and the making ſome of them more durable Subjects for the Anatomiſt to deal with: yet beſides that moſt of the ways I propoſed to my ſelf were as yet little more then bare Deſignes, I never aim'd at, (and ſcarce ſo much as hop'd for,) ſuch ſtrange things as in this Paper the ingenuous Publiſher of it tells us he hath already actually performed. And therefore I ſuppoſe that it will not be unwelcome to you, if not having had the opportunity to ſee the effect of this Gentleman's skill my ſelf, and being ſufficiently indiſpoſed to believe or affirme any ſtrange thing that I have not ſeen; I

annex the other Paper you lately desir'd of me. I mean that wherein the Proposers Dutch print came inclos'd to me from the Hague. *For besides that it containes something of Particular; it comes from a French Gentleman whose Testimonie may well be considerable in matters of this nature; for he is one of that select Society of* Parisian *Philosophers of which You and I have sometimes discours'd, and you will finde a celebrating mention made of him in the life of* Gassendus, *(whose Friend and Disciple he was.) And his curiosity leading him to imitate divers of the old Greek Philosophers,*

who

who travail'd through many Countreys only to enrich themſelves with what knowledge they could meet with in them; he went purpoſely to viſit Monſieur de Bils, *ſoon after he had left* England; *which he lately travers'd, and in his paſſage honour'd me with ſeverall of his viſits. I am ſo willing that You ſhould be as wary as I in admitting unlikely things into your belief, that in putting the* French *I received into* Engliſh, *I have been (purpoſely to avoid ſtraining his expreſſions) more careful to do right to his Words then to his Style. And as for thoſe things that appear*

to

to have been left out by me, they are some of them such matters as concern not our Proposer, and others but such Complements as require rather my Blushes then my Translating. The consent you desire of me to publish the Proposalls in our Language I must not refuse you. For 'tis the least we owe to a Person that hath endeavour'd to oblige mankinde, and to those that are willing to encourage such endeavours, by acquainting the ingenuous here with his Propositions, to strive to procure him Subscribers, and to afford them the opportunity of encouraging and assisting so useful a Work as This

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(*ſuppoſing the truth of the Hiſtorical part of the Paper*) *is like to prove. It may alſo be hop'd that the noiſe of ſuch Diſcoveries abroad will rouſe up our ingenuous Men at home, and excite them to endeavour to emulate if not ſurpaſſe them: and to keep up that reputation for Anatomical diſcoveries and skill that this Nation hath of late deſervedly enjoy'd. Nor will it be amiſs by the ſame means to give as many of thoſe in Authority as may happen to read what the States of* Holland *have done in favour of a Stranger, occaſion to take notice what countenance neighbouring Magiſtrates, that are not thought*

thought unpolitick neither, are forward to give to those designs that aime at the advancement of Reall *Learning. Which may perhaps invite those that can do it, to give encouragement to the* English *Wits; which I am groundedly confident want nothing but encouragement, to perform things in this kinde that would really advantage the publick, as well as highly gratifie such persons as* Mr. Hartlib *and his*

Affectionate humble Servant

Octob. the 13.

1659.

R. Boyle

+ sonne to ye E.
of Corke

The Copy of a certain large Act of Yonker L. de Bils, *Lord of* Koppenſdam, Bonen, &c. *Touching the skill of a better way of Anatomy of mans Body.*

His day being the 26. day of *May*, 1659. before the Witneſſes here-under named; and me *Leonard Van Zyl*, a Publick Notary admitted by the Court of *Holland*, and reſiding in *Rotterdam*; there appeared *Yonker Louiis de Bils*, *Lord of Koppenſdamme*, Bonen, &c. Baillie

Baillie of the City and Territory of Aardenburg. And he declared, as he also doth further declare uprightly by this Writing, that, although he, the said Gentleman, having given, to *the famous University of Leiden*, divers Anatomical pieces of his own work, had resolved to trouble himselfe no more with Anatomy, and accordingly had done nothing in it for fourteen years together; Yet he hath now taken up the contrary resolution, because of the earnest intreaties of divers famous, learned and judicious men both of this Countrey and of forraigne parts; as also because of that favourable permission and Graunt, whereby the High-Mighty Lords, *the States Generall of the United Netherlands* have given him power to make all the Bodies of those that shall be executed by the hand of justice, whether Military or Civil, as also of those strangers

that

that ſhall die in the *Hoſpitals*, in all parts belonging to the ſaid States General; and to diſſect the ſaid Carkaſes in ſuch manner as himſelf ſhall think good for the ſatisfying his own Curioſity, and the promoting of Knowledge for the Common good. Being alſo further incouraged by the convenient place for *an Anatomical Theater* in that houſe which was lately *the Court of the Engliſh Merchants in this City*; which houſe the Honourable Lords the Governours of *Rotterdam* have favourably granted him to that end, He, the ſaid Gentleman, hath now at laſt reſolved and begun to ſet up a *meerly new Anatomy of the body of Man*, by many dead Bodies diſſected and embalmed *in an extraordinary manner*, in which bodies ſhall be ſhewn all the Veins, Arteries, Sinews and Fibres ſevered from one another, but remaining faſt, both where they firſt ariſe, and where they end.

Alſo

Also the Heart, Liver, Lungs, and Entrals, Eyes and Brains shall remain manifest in the said Bodies; and shall be so ordered that *Lectures* may be made upon them, *as well in Summer as Winter*, with discovery and demonstration of mistakes both of Ancient and Modern Anatomists, who in their dissections are hindred, by the spilling of blood, from seeing to the bottome of their work: But these new Anatomies shall be completed *without spilling any blood at all*. In these the Anatomy-Reader shall be able to shew the true ground of the Circulation of the blood, first found out by Doctor *Hervey*; as also to give further demonstration to that doctrine, by causing the *Veines* to swell, so that they shall *stand full of blood*, which can hardly be seen otherwise. By which means men may see all the *valvas venarum* and the manner of the opening and shut-

and ſhutting of all thoſe trap-doors within the Veines; ſome of which doors are Semilunular, ſome of other ſhapes; as may be ſeen deſcribed in a little Book publiſhed [in Dutch] by the aforeſaid Undertaker, bearing this title *The true uſe of the Gall-bladder, &c.* Whereby may be underſtood the office of that Paſſage commonly called *Ductus Chyliferus* with its branches and adjoyned little Pipes: As alſo how the *Chylus* comes to the Heart and its little bag; how the *tears* come into the Eyes; how the *ſpittle* comes into the mouth, how the Watercourſes come to the Liver, and how the whole Body is moiſtened.

But becauſe the foreſaid Undertaker plainly ſees it impoſſible to compleat ſo great and coſtly a work as this, at his own charge, it having coſt him already ſome thouſands of Pounds Flemiſh; and he having alwayes refuſed all offers of thoſe

that would oblige him to serve any other Soveraigne, *Therefore*, By these presents he makes known this his intention to all those who regard the good of Mankinde, and this useful knowledge: And he invites them to be helpful to his designe, whereto divers famous learned men have perswaded him; namely, To provide almost *fifty Bodies* differently dissected and embalmed; according to which, pictures may be drawn and engraven in Copper, and Books may be written. More-over, this his new manner of dissecting and embalming *he promiseth to reveale* to every one of those who shall contribute a small sum, which by many hands may quickly arise to the desired sum of *twenty thousand pounds Cursiv.* for so much will be necessary, considering that so many Bodies, before they be Anatomized and Embalmed as is desired, will stand him in some thousands of Guldens,

Guldens, beſides other expenſes, which he hath already been at, and more he muſt yet be at.

Whoſoever, therefore, deſires the aforeſaid skill or the furtherance of it, let him bring or ſend his name with the ſumme of *five and twenty Carolus Guldens* at one payment (He that deſires to haſten this deſigne, may ſend in as much more as he pleaſeth) to the foreſaid Undertaker, who will bind himſelf to every one of thoſe Contributors by a Solemn *Obligation under his Hand and Seal*, to ſatisfie every one of them, by a compleat revealing of his skill in a Writing ſubſcribed by the ſaid Undertaker, and deliver'd to each of them *within a year and an half* after the firſt of *July* 1659. And if any of the Contributors, dwelling in forrain Countries, ſhall conceive the ſaid Writing not clear enough to give them full Knowledge of the ſaid skill, they may then either

come themſelves to him or ſend ſome Country-man of theirs to *Rotterdam* to be preſent at his diſſections, where the ſaid *Undertaker will ſhew* them the true manner of working; as alſo to all thoſe Contributors that dwell in theſe Countreys, if they deſire to ſee the way of handling, that they may ſo much the better perceive and underſtand the way, which he by long Experience and much practice hath found out for the *diſſecting of a whole Body without ſpilling any blood*, and for the *Embalming it for whole Ages* in ſuch manner as aforeſaid: So that the ſaid Contributors from that time forward ſhall be able to do all thoſe things *as well as he, the ſaid Undertaker, can do them*, namely to diſſect and embalme a whole Body with its blood, bowels, braines, and whatſoever is in it, without being ſubject to *any putrefaction in the leaſt*.

And

And if any man be curious to see beforehand some Effects of these Promises, he may come to the Undertaker at *Rotterdam*; and giving *one Reiks Daler*, he shall see four pieces of his Work, which shall be there shewed unto him before he layes down the foresaid twenty five Guldens. Those Pieces are four Anatomized humane Bodies thus prepared & Embalmed, but dissected each of them in a different manner, wherein any man according to his desire, may view the Veines, Arteries, Sinews, Membranes and Fibres in their order.

But, if at the end of the eighteen moneths abovesaid, the abovesaid summe should not be made up, and so his foresaid designe be hindred; He then promiseth, to all and every one of those that brought or sent him money, upon condition that he should teach them his skill, that upon their returns of his Obligations,

He will readily *repay their five and twenty Guldens*, (or more, to those that contributed more) detaining no part of their mony, *save the Reiks-Daler* which they gave for the sight of the aforesaid four Anatomized Bodies, towards the charges which he hath already been at, or must yet lay out, to satisfie the Curiosity of those that shall come to view his foresaid pieces. And that all may be done without fraud or deceit, the said Gentleman, the Undertaker, shall by his delivered *Obligation* binde his Person and goods both movable and unmovable, *to each of the Contributors*, either to teach them his skill, or to restore their money.

If this Undertaker come *to dye* before the said terme be expired, then shall *his Wife* be bound, by the same Obligation, either to deliver every man his five and twenty Guldens (or more, to those that contributed

buted more) or elſe to give every ſuch Contributor a Copy of the Deſcription of the ſaid skill; in which Deſcription he the ſaid Undertaker proteſteth ſeriouſly that he hath expreſſed his uttermoſt Knowledge of his skill, ſo as may content any Learner. A faire Copy of this Deſcription ſhewed to me the Notary, and put up in a Latton Box, and ſealed with the Seale of my Notaries Office, ſhall be kept by the Wife of the ſaid Undertaker.

Of all which above-written Declarations, the aforeſaid Gentleman, the Undertaker, required me the Notary to make an Act in due forme.

Thus done in *Rotterdam*, in the preſence of *Juſtus Riikwaart* and *Laurence Jordaan*, both Doctors of Phyſick, intreated to come on purpoſe

poſe to be *Witneſſes* of this Writing.

Underneath ſtood

Quod Atteſtor

and was ſigned below

L. van Ziil, Notar. Publ.

Under the *printed* Copy was *written* thus,

It agrees with the Original Act, dated and ſubſcribed as above

L. van Ziil, Notar. Publ.

The Dutch coine above-mentioned, reduced to Engliſh mony.

20. thouſand pounds Fleſh (miſh) 12. thouſand pounds (ſterling.

25. Carolus Guldens 50 ſhillings Engliſh.

1. Reiks-Daler 4. ſhillings, 6. pence.

The fore-mentioned Translation of the French Gentleman's LETTER

I Went into *Zealand*, purposely to see there *Monsieur de Bils*; but being inform'd at *Middelburg* that the Lords States had invited him to *Rotterdam* to erect there his Anatomical Theatre; I presently resorted thither, and made a weeks stay there, to visit him. I shall not tell You Sir that I entertain'd him concerning You, and that, &c. ——— I shall content my selfe to acquaint You

You, that I desir'd him to give me the inclosed Print to send You that You might know what he is upon —— His Two secrets are that of Embalming, and the Opening of dead Body's without spilling of Blood, which he pretends to teach those onely that shall have contributed to the sum of sixscore thousand pound, when it shall have been made up. If his Experiments be true he revives the Title of the Liver to Sanguification, and believes himself to have discover'd the original of Teares, and Spittle, of the *Serosity's* contain'd in the *Pericardium*, and the passage of those which serve for the making of Urine, without traversing the Heart. He holds forth also many other Propositions, very ingenious, if the things be such as he delivers. I have seen his foure

What this amounts to in English money the Print will informe you.

Em-

Embalmed Bodies, which are extreamly fine; and divers ſmaller parts of the body by themſelves. One of thoſe is embalmed with all the Excrements in the Guts, and a little Fætus (that he hath) is embalm'd whole.——

Poſtſcript.

An abortive Fætus ſo preſerv'd together with an intimation of the way by which it is preſerv'd I have ſeene and mention'd in the Papers I lately told you off.

A Extract of a Letter written by the Learned Dr. *Horne* Publick Professor of History in the University of *Leyden* to *S. H.*

BIllii Anatomia sanè admiratione dignissima est: eam vobis dudum innotuisse non dubitabam. Tria Corpora jam olim spectaculo præparaverat, quæ etiamnum visuntur. Corpora quasi in Lapideam duritiem con-

congelat : ita ſine ſanguinis aut partium perturbatione ſingula naturalibus locis ſpectantur. Ex Anatomico noſtro, datâ occaſione, inquiram quæ totius rei ſit ratio.

In Engliſh.

DE *Bils* his Anatomy is indeed Admirable, I made no queſtion but you had heard of it long ſince. He had formerly prepared three Bodies after his new faſhion, and they are yet to be ſeen. They are become almoſt as hard as ſtone, ſo that every part may be ſeene in its proper place without any removal either of the blood or other parts. The next time I meet with our Profeſſor of Anatomy, I will get a particular Accompt of the whole buſineſſe from him.

FINIS.